

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 ACDA-07 IO-13 SP-02 USIA-06
AID-05 EB-08 NSC-05 CIEP-01 TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-04
OMB-01 CEA-01 COME-00 FEAE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04
H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 ERDA-05 SAJ-01
/114 W

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R 030926Z FEB 77

FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9744

INFO AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY KABUL

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 ISLAMABAD 1214

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PK, RO

SUBJ: VISIT OF ROMANIAN FOREIGN MINISTER MACOVESCU

1. SUMMARY: ROMANIAN FOREIGN MINISTER MACOVESCU PAID
OFFICIAL VISIT TO PAKISTAN JANUARY 24-29. HE CALLED ON
PRIME MINISTER BHUTTO AND PRESIDENT CHAUDHRY AND HAD TWO
"WORKING SESSIONS" WITH MINISTER OF STATE FOR FOREIGN
AFFAIRS AZIZ AHMED. ACCORDING TO A COMMUNIQUE ISSUED
AFTER THE TALKS, ROMANIA SUPPORTED BHUTTO'S CALL FOR A
THIRD WORLD SUMMIT, "WELCOMED THE POSITIVE DEVELOPMENTS"
IN THE NORMALIZATION OF RELATIONS BETWEEN PAKISTAN AND
INDIA, "EMPHASIZED THE IMPORTANCE" OF ESTABLISHING NUCLEAR
FREE ZONES IN SOUTH ASIA, THE BALKANS, AND OTHER PARTS OF
THE WORLD; AND AGREED ON THE NEED TO RESTORE THE "LEGITIMATE
RIGHTS" OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE. THE TWO SIDES ALSO
DISCUSSED EXPANSION OF ECONOMIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL COOPERATION,
ALTHOUGH WITHOUT REACHING ANY SPECIFIC AGREEMENTS, AND
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AZIZ AHMED ACCEPTED AN INVITATION TO VISIT ROMANIA. DATE
FOR THE VISIT HAS NOT BEEN FIXED. ACCORDING TO ROMANIAN
DCM, VISIT WAS LARGELY CEREMONIAL AND COMMUNIQUE INCLUDED
ALL OF THE ITEMS WHICH WERE DISCUSSED. END SUMMARY.

2. ROMANIAN FOREIGN MINISTER GEORGE MACOVESCU VISITED
PAKISTAN JANUARY 24-29 AS GUEST OF PAKISTANI MINISTER OF

STATE FOR DEFENSE AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS AZIZ AHMED. MACOVESCU HAD TWO ROUNDS OF TALKS WITH AZIZ AHMED ON JANUARY 25 AND 26, AND CALLED ON PRIME MINISTER BHUTTO AND PRESIDENT CHAUDHRY ON JANUARY 25. HE ALSO VISITED OTHER PARTS OF PAKISTAN, INCLUDING THE NATIONAL REFINERY PROJECT NEAR KARACHI. CAPACITY OF THE REFINERY IS BEING EXPANDED UNDER A PROJECT, FINANCED BY ROMANIA, WHICH IS EXPECTED TO BE COMPLETED BY MARCH. CAPACITY WILL BE QUADRUPLED TO TWO MILLION TONS ANNUALLY.

3. COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AT CONCLUSION OF VISIT REFERRED TO "WIDE RANGING AND USEFUL TALKS ... HELD IN AN ATMOSPHERE OF CORDIALITY, MUTUAL ESTEEM, AND UNDERSTANDING" AND NOTED THAT SPECIAL EMPHASIS WAS GIVEN TO GROWTH OF COMMERCIAL EXCHANGES AND EXPANSION OF ECONOMIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL COOPERATION. ROMANIAN DCM TOLD EMBOFF THAT NOTHING CONCRETE HAD BEEN AGREED TO IN ECONOMIC-COMMERCIAL FIELD, ALTHOUGH THERE WAS SOME TALK OF PARTICIPATION BY ROMANIA IN A HEAVY ELECTRICAL COMPLEX TO BE CONSTRUCTED IN TAXILA, OUTSIDE OF ISLAMABAD (SITE OF A HEAVY MECHANICAL COMPLEX FINANCED LARGELY BY CHINA). COINCIDENTALLY, A ROMANIAN TECHNICAL DELEGATION IS IN PAKISTAN CARRYING ON MORE DETAILED DISCUSSIONS OF THE ELECTRICAL COMPLEX. AN ADDITIONAL POSSIBILITY FOR ROMANIAN PARTICIPATION IS A CEMENT PLANT TO BE CONSTRUCTED IN THE TAXILA AREA, BUT THIS REMAINS IN THE TALKING STAGE. BOTH ROMANIAN DCM AND MFA DIRECTOR FOR EASTERN EUROPE SAID THAT NO NEW AGREEMENTS WERE REACHED.

4. SOMEWHAT BURIED IN COMMUNIQUE, BUT HEADLINED IN PAK PRESS
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COVERAGE, WAS THE ALMOST OBLIGATORY STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF BHUTTO'S PROPOSAL FOR A THIRD WORLD SUMMIT. "VIEWS WERE EXCHANGED" ON THIS PROPOSAL, AND ROMANIA WAS DECLARED TO BE "IN FAVOR OF A SUMMIT CONFERENCE OF THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES THAT WOULD EXAMINE THE PRINCIPLES OF A NEW INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER AND DEVISE CONCRETE WAYS AND MEANS FOR ITS ACHIEVEMENT." ACCORDING TO ROMANIAN DCM, THE ROMANIANS WOULD PREFER TO HAVE SOME SPECIFIC PROPOSALS FOR DISCUSSION AT SUCH A CONFERENCE, IN CONTRAST TO WHAT APPEARS TO THEM TO BE THE MORE GENERAL AND WIDE-OPEN CONFERENCE PROPOSED BY BHUTTO.

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5. COMMUNIQUE ALSO REFERRED TO AGREEMENT ON THE NEED FOR NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT AND ESTABLISHMENT OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS FREE ZONES IN SOUTH ASIA, THE BALKANS "AND OTHER PARTS OF THE WORLD." THE MINISTERS CALLED FOR A JUST AND LASTING PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND "RESTORATION OF THE FULL NATIONAL AND LEGITIMATE RIGHTS OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE." FINALLY, COMMUNIQUE NOTED THAT AZIZ AHMED HAD REVIEWED THE PROGRESS MADE IN IMPLEMENTATION OF SIMLA AGREEMENT BETWEEN INDIA AND PAKISTAN, WHICH WAS WELCOMED BY MACOVESCU, WHO EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT "ALL COUNTRIES OF THE REGION" WOULD MAKE EVERY EFFORT TOWARD COMPLETE NORMALIZATION OF RELATIONS. IN THIS CONNECTION, ROMANIAN DCM TOOK SOME PAINS TO MAKE IT CLEAR TO EMBOFF THAT MACOVESCU'S VISIT WAS IN NO WAY CONNECTED WITH VISIT OF INDIAN FOREIGN MINISTER Y.B. CHAVAN TO ROMANIA EARLIER IN JANUARY. ACCORDING TO ROMANIAN, MACOVESCU'S VISIT HAD BEEN PLANNED FOR SOME TIME AND WAS ORIGINALLY SCHEDULED FOR DECEMBER. ROMANIAN ADDED, HOWEVER, THAT MACOVESCU HAD BRIEFED AZIZ AHMED ON HIS TALKS WITH
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CHAVAN AND HAD ASSURED HIM THAT CHAVAN'S VISIT WAS CEREMONIAL IN NATURE. ROMANIAN COMMENTED TO EMBOFF THAT MACOVESCU CERTAINLY HAD OPPORTUNITY TO HEAR BOTH SIDES OF KASHMIR STORY.

6. EDITORIAL ON VISIT IN GOVERNMENT-OWNED PAKISTAN TIMES OF FEBRUARY 3 FEATURED ROMANIA'S ENDORSEMENT OF THIRD WORLD

SUMMIT, WHICH EDITORIAL DEEMED OF "INESTIMABLE VALUE" BECAUSE OF ROMANIA'S ROLE AS A LEADING SPOKESMAN OF THIRD WORLD CAUSES. EDITORIAL ALSO MENTIONED ROMANIA'S PARTICIPATION IN NATIONAL REFINERY AND PLANNED PARTICIPATION IN ELECTRICAL COMPLEX, AND IDENTIFIED SEVERAL OTHER JOINT PROJECTS IN PLANNING STAGES UNDER AUSPICES OF PAK-ROMANIA JOINT GOVERNMENT COMMISSION, WHICH LAST MET IN BUCHAREST IN OCTOBER. SUCH PROJECTS INCLUDE OIL EXPLORATION, CEMENT, SODA ASH, SYNTHETIC AND CHEMICAL FIBRE FACTORIES, AND TRACTOR, BUST, DIESEL, AND ELECTRIC LOCOMOTIVE PLANTS. EDITORIAL URGED JOINT COMMISSION TO MEET MORE OFTEN TO IMPLEMENT SUCH PROJECTS, AND CALLED FOR GREATER EFFORT IN TRADE FIELD TO INCREASE BILATERAL TRADE (WHICH FAILED TO REACH EXPECTED LEVEL OF 50 MILLION DOLLARS IN 1976) TO MEET TARGET OF 100 MILLION DOLLARS SET FOR 1980.

COMMENT: MFA DIRECTOR HAD REMARKABLY LITTLE TO SAY ABOUT TALKS, BUT EMBASSY BELIEVES THIS IS LARGELY DUE TO FACT THAT THERE SIMPLY WASN'T MUCH TO SAY, AND WHAT THERE WAS HAD BEEN INCLUDED IN COMMUNIQUE. PAKS NO DOUBT SATISFIED WITH ROMANIA'S PUBLIC BACKING OF BHUTTO'S SUMMIT PROPOSAL AND WILL CONTINUE TO SEEK ADDITIONAL ECONOMIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL COOPERATION. ROMANIANS ALSO NO DOUBT INTERESTED IN INCREASING THIS COOPERATION (ROMANIAN DCM REMARKED THAT ROMANIANS HAD RECENTLY LOST OUT TO FRENCH ON A PLANNED TRUCK PLANT AND TO SOVIETS ON TRACTOR PRODUCTION) BUT ARE ALSO INTERESTED IN KEEPING A LOW PROFILE IN THE INDO-PAK DISPUTE. THUS ROMANIAN DCM'S CHARACTERIZATION OF VISIT AS "NOTING SPECIAL" IS PROBABLY ACCURATE. ONLY SOUR NOTE WAS STRUCK BY SOVIET FIRST SECRETARY, WHO TRIED TO CONVINCE EMBASSY THAT ROMANIA CONFIDENTIAL

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WAS NOT REALLY INTERESTED IN BHUTTO'S THIRD WORLD SUMMIT.
BYROAD

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Message Attributes

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